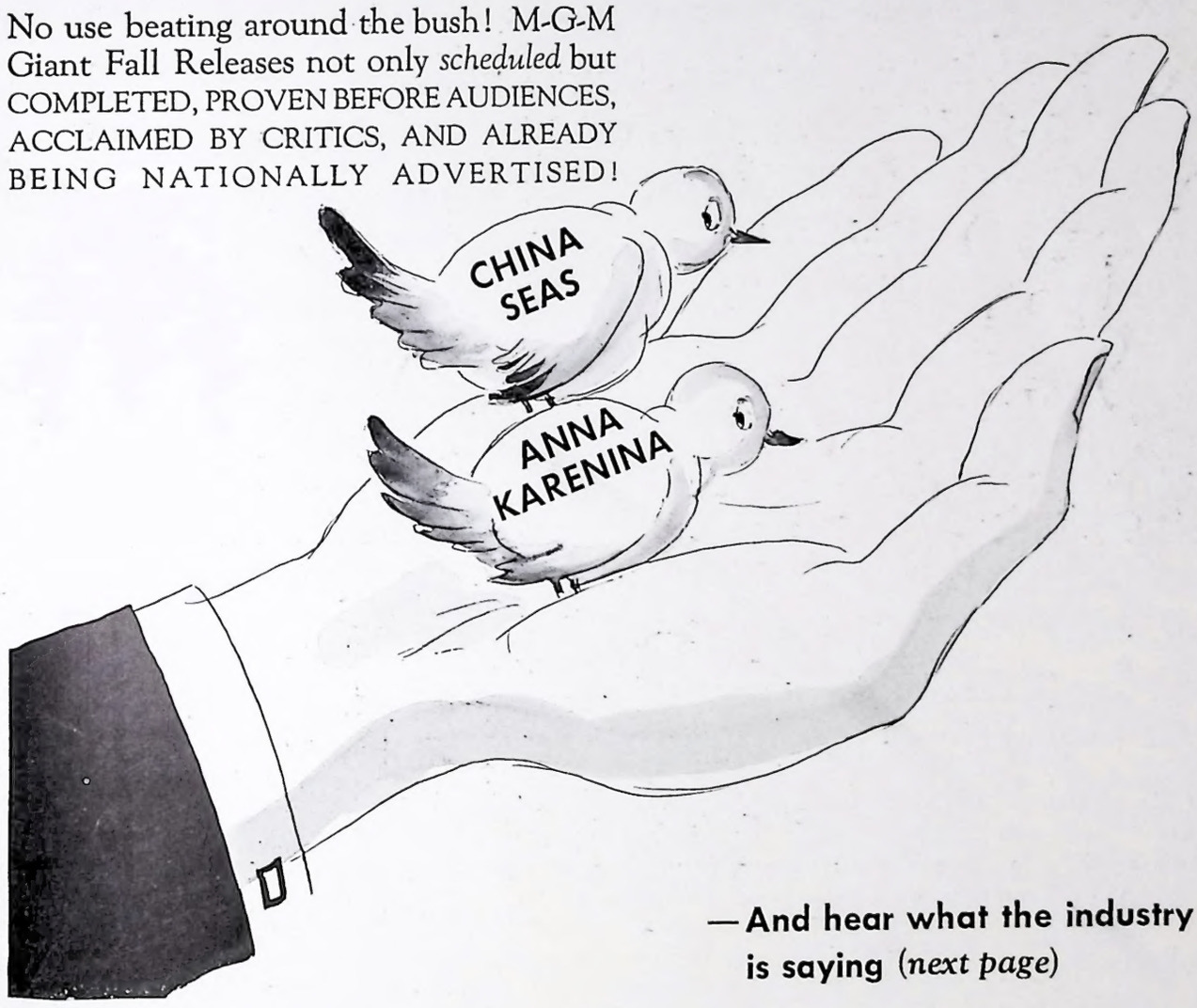
Crowded Houses Loew's, Toronto, Greet Luise Rainer, New M-G-M Star with Bill Powell in "Escapade"

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 27, No. 15 TORONTO 2, CANADA Aug. 3rd, 1935

TWO BIRDS IN THE HAND—

No use beating around the bush! M-G-M Giant Fall Releases not only *scheduled* but COMPLETED, PROVEN BEFORE AUDIENCES, ACCLAIMED BY CRITICS, AND ALREADY BEING NATIONALLY ADVERTISED!



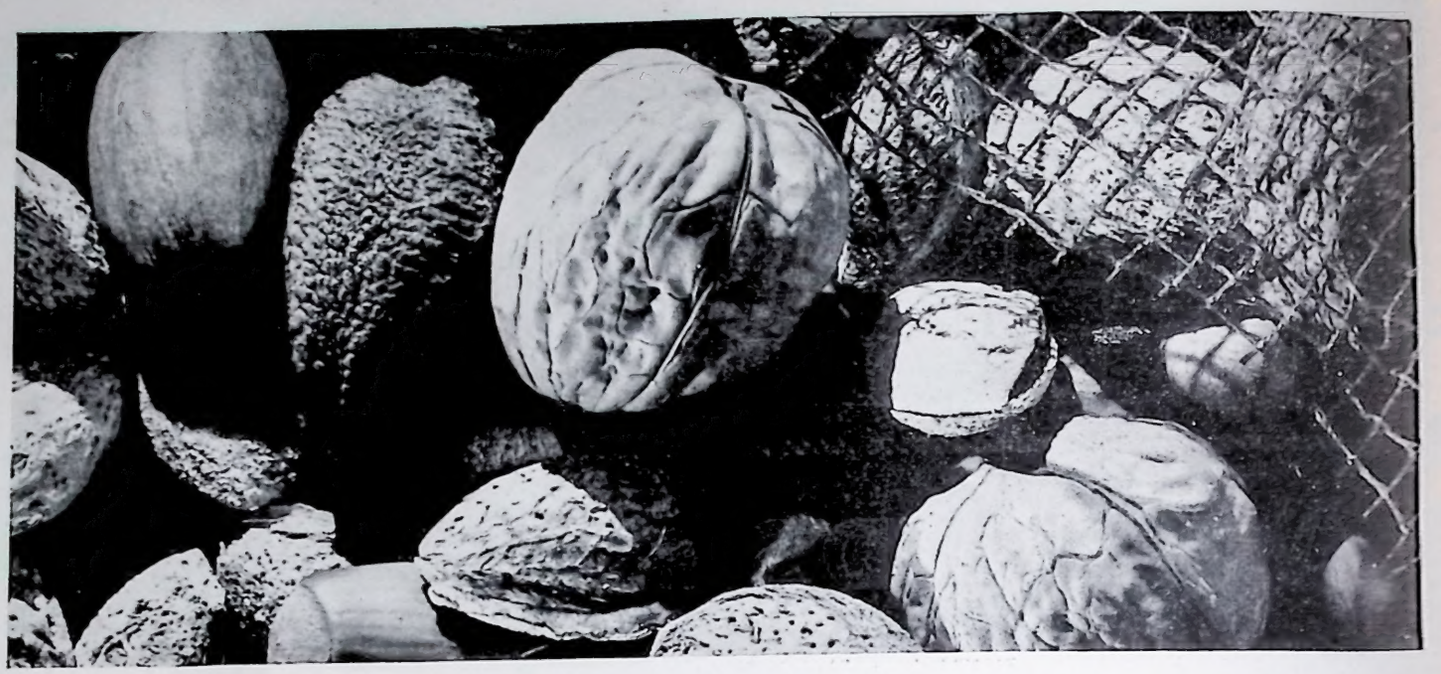
—And hear what the industry is saying (*next page*)

PUBLISHED BY

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED

259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

IT'S THE



That M-G-M line-up for Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov. has electrified the industry Happy harvest to you Mr. Showman We begin with the Giant Hit "CHINA SEAS" (*Clark Gable, Jean Harlow, Wallace Beery*) Then there's "ANNA KARENINA" (*Garbo, Fredric March, Freddie ("Copperfield") Barthelomew* In between come pleasant interludes like "O'SHAUGHNESSY'S BOY" (*Wallace Beery, Jackie Cooper*) and Laurel-Hardy's roaring, full-length "BONNIE SCOTLAND" "TALE OF TWO CITIES" (*Ronald Colman and Great Cast*) will make exhibition history Along comes the stage triumph "THE BISHOP MISBEHAVES" followed by JOAN CRAWFORD'S biggest dramatic role in "GLAMOUR" "BROADWAY MELODY OF 1936" is the Musical Giant of the new season (*Jack Benny heading cast of 15 electric light names*) "MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY" (*Clark Gable, Charles Laughton, Franchot Tone*) is just one reason why you'll remember November Others are the grand picture (*title to come*) in which JOAN CRAWFORD introduces CLIFTON WEBB to the screen. Also "LET FREEDOM RING" (*Jeanette MacDonald, Nelson Eddy*) the long-awaited follow-up to "Naughty Marietta" The Marx Brothers in "A NIGHT AT THE OPERA" and Bill Powell's new Secret Service drama and "ROBIN HOOD OF ELDORADO" (*Warner Baxter*) These are just highlights in the first four months of your HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Race Tracks Get Benefit First Reduction in Ontario Amusement Tax

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RAY LEWIS
Editor and Managing Director

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"OLD TIMERS GET TOGETHER"

THE recent convention of United Artists at Los Angeles, found this interesting set-up. Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, Charles Chaplin, Samuel Goldwyn, President Al Lichtman, Dennis O'Brien, and Edward Raftery, as the new Board, with Nathan Burkan, and James Mulvey, as hold-over members.

For quality pictures, the Industry knows well such names as Sam Goldwyn, Mary Pickford, Charles Chaplin, and Douglas Fairbanks. All have been outstanding contributors to the fame and fortune of the Screen. The most unique of this quartet, by way of a histrionic ability imperishable is Charles Chaplin, although Mary Pickford brought to the screen a quality of innocence and charm in her character portrayals, which certainly established a precedent which influenced the building up of Motion Pictures to its present important position.

The work of Douglas Fairbanks has always been interesting and fascinating, and he is responsible for some of our best pictures, such as "The Thief of Bagdad", "Robin Hood", etc.

The name of Sam Goldwyn is a trade-mark of quality in Motion Pictures. Mr. Goldwyn is a showman in the truest sense of that word, and rarely does he pick a loser, either by way of star, or picture.

The new plans of United Artists involve the production of pictures by Mary Pickford, Charles Chaplin, and Douglas Fairbanks, although these stars will not appear in these productions. From Sam Goldwyn we are to expect a group of pictures of Goldwyn quality.

WRITERS GET INNINGS

A standard form of contract for writers has finally been agreed upon as a result of the meetings of committees between producers and scenarists. The conferences have been carried on by the Academy of Arts and Sciences in association with Motion Pictures.

It is a victory for the writers, and incidentally the public will be saved the reading of a list of names covering services in the writing of a script. According to the new plan as agreed upon, the writing credit will go to that author responsible for the screen play, and will read as such.

The maximum number of names will be three, with an effort to confine it to two. Its an excellent idea, because "too many cooks spoil the broth" and the same holds good for a story.

Writers will use a standard form of contract, but there is no preventative clause which eliminates the possibility of any writer making a "better deal" as it were. The screen name will be that of the author responsible for at least 75% of the story material.

The unemployed angle looms in a clause which necessitates a week's notice to writers under contract in advance of a "lay-off; and that such periods of unemployment must be consecutive for those writers who have contracts which provide for a number of open weeks.

It is a long way we have travelled from that production day and night of pictures, where the business was just producing a picture, and selling it to an exhibitor, who in turn told his patrons it was "The Greatest Show on Earth".

The change in Business Ethics of Motion Pictures is a change which is part of our times. Exploitation of Labour covered a multitude of sins, it is responsible to a great extent for the Economic upheaval, the unrest of the Masses; but of this sin of low wages Motion Pictures is free. No Industry in the world has made so many rich in the profits of the world as Motion Pictures; and of particular interest is the fact that those who have acquired wealth, and the comforts of life, are not of the Classes, but of the Masses.

RAY PRESENTS

RAY LEWIS

"MISTINGUETTE", she of world-leg fame, owing to the fact that she had beautiful legs at one time, and insured them for thousands and thousands, because "Mistinguette" danced with those legs as well as showed them; she is telling the world now, one always tells the world when one is in motion pictures, that "great lovers are made, not born".

Well, well, and I was always under the impression that some people were born to love and be loved. Jean Harlow for instance, she was "Born to Love", even if she did become "The Girl From Missouri".

In fact every beautiful woman has been born to be loved and to love. It's a little hard on the plain women, but who is to blame? They can follow the advice of Mlle and try "to make" some man, that is adopt the policy of making a lover.

What "eight month" babies have to do with love, anymore than seven or nine month babies I do not understand, but the question is being debated in Paris.

Gay Paree where babies are wanted by the Government; and babies left on doorsteps are welcomed into the fold. Large families, however, are not the rule among the Parley-vous, only in Quebec, that province of Canada which boast of the French-Canadian; the fame of which by way of productivity, has been added to through those blessed quintuplets.

WHAT is agitating Paris is this question "do eight month babies develop into better lovers?" I think Laurel and Hardy could satisfy the public on that point, and even give Paris a good laugh by developing the idea as a comedy. Laurel could be the eight month baby.

The press asked "Mistinguette"; she should know, for she has been the "darling of Paris" before I even knew that Paris was not green; and that you did not spray an orchard with it. She says, "Great lovers are made, not born. It depends upon whom they associate with in the course of their life, not on the time they came into it".

What started all this baby talk, which certainly is akin to love, for what lover has not indulged in "sweetie", "cutie", "baby doll", "my precious 'ittle pumpkin", "'ose your 'ittle 'osey?" the list is too formidable for my pen. It all started because of medical testimony in a murder trial in Paris, the prisoner was defended on the ground that he was abnormal because he was an "eight month baby". Now there's a defence for you!

Society and moving picture stars, actors and actresses are all being questioned. Prince Alexis Mdivani, former husband of Barbara Hutton, and brother of the Mdivani of motion picture marital fame was among those asked the question. He should know because Barbara must have loved him a great deal to hand out that fortune in American dollars for a honeymoon.

MAURICE CHEVALIER was quizzed, but refused to answer further telephone queries on the subject, although Chevalier should also know having successfully appeared as a persistent lover in several successful pictures. If I strain my memory is there not some connection somewhere in the past between Chevalier and "Mistinguette"?

But to return to Mlle from Armentiers, I beg pardon... Mlle "Mistinguette". I had a look at the famous legs when I was in Paris; and I listened to her sing, and saw her dance, she was full of "pep", but somehow, or other I was worried that one who had long since passed the "tender age" should be depending upon her legs... I could not help wondering whether a human leg, if of mature age, would be as tough to eat for a cannibal as an old hen's leg is for us who are not vegetarians.

Although there were beautiful women on that stage, of all shades and hues, who paraded up and down without claiming they belonged to the nudist colony, I kept wishing that "Mistinguette" would do something beside show her legs; and she did; a scene from DuBarry, prior to the kiss of the guillotine blade, a scene with her lover, which was magnificent — only a woman who was a great lover could have played such a scene; and incidentally "Mistinguette" proved that, whereas, she insured her legs for a future, to be a great lover one must have a past, also, one must have a leg to stand on. She has two for she is rightfully famous, with or without legs, for her histrionic artistry!

There is one woman star in Motion Pictures whose legs, however, have carried her at least partway up the ladder to Stardom and that is Marlene Dietrich. Ann Pennington won more hearts with her dimpled knees than any lover born at eight months.

ON making some inquiries I find that neither "Mistinguette" nor Ann Pennington, nor Marlene Dietrich were born at "eight months"; and if the Quintuplets keep up their record of making sweethearts of everybody around the world, we should have something to say about the love-power of seventh month babies.

Don Juan, and Casinova, Cellini, not overlooking our British relations, Henry VIII, and Mary Queen of Scots, all made their mothers wait nine months for them, which

(Continued on page 5)

Nazis Ban "Episode" Paula Wessely Film in Germany—Author a Jew

Ray Presents

(Continued from page 4)

did not prove a handicap in the Art of being a Lover. Goethe, that Giant of Literature wrote, "If I love you what business is that of yours". Which reminds me that Faust loved Marguerite and that when Marguerite told him in a nice ladylike way to be off with his protestations of love, Faust refused to go until he had made Marguerite love him. And you and I know that Goethe is responsible for Faust!

Hogg has written in "Love is Like a Dizziness", these lines, "O, love, love, love, Love is like a dizziness; it winna let a poor body gang about his business". You remember the old ballad, "Love me little, love me long is the burden of my song." Christopher Marlowe is responsible for this love plaint.

Shakespeare caused Juliet, of famous lover fame, to exclaim to Romeo, "My bounty is as boundless as the sea, my love as deep, the more I give to thee, the more I have, for both are infinite".

I don't know whether Juliet was an eight-month baby, but although of tender years she was no baby at love!

YOU will be reading all this love-stuff just as I reach dear old London. Don't get an idea that the Duchess of York, on which I came across the Atlantic has inspired this presentation of love, because I wrote this in advance in the Toronto office of The Digest, and incidentally, I am getting out a 20th Anniversary Digest this year, which is sufficient unto the day for Ray's Love without picking up any lovers en-tour!

Harold Bishop in Los Angeles

A postcard, this week, from Harold Bishop, Manager of the Capitol, Winnipeg, holidaying in Los Angeles, conveys the information that he is enjoying his vacation, that he found the trip to the coast by air, a thrilling experience. Harold writes that he has not witnessed one show while in Los Angeles, but takes time off to go through the RKO studios, where he saw some productions in the making.

Preparations of motion picture films to be used for educational purposes in small towns and rural communities in the fight against fire hazards was discussed at a meeting of the Canadian association of fire marshals. Addresses at the conference included one by T. Baird, fire commissioner, Winnipeg, for the Manitoba government.

Lulu in Hollywood

JIMMIE FIDDLER on the air, or up in the air, tells us the "Oil for the Lamps of China" is too everything — two star, too long ,too spectacular und so weiter. Jimmie's nose is out of joint ,that's all. So is ours, but what's to do about it?

Wendy Barrie, Jack Oakie and Jean Jagger forsaking all others so they cuss and discuss their tonsils, or the lack of them, — at Paramount.

All the studios making a try at some "National Velvet" (Enid Bagnold's sensational new novel), — with Paramount getting the purse.

What a threesome, — W. C. Fields is going to be "joined together" with Sam Hardy and John Sinclair as comedy writers.

Mary Brian signed for the lead in "Everything Happens at Once", in W. C. Fields' current picture. It will probably happen.

Karloff likes people fainting away at his feet, so he's off again to make the "Black Room Mystery", — and they say the locale is Hungary.

The flowers that bloom in the spring tra la la are moving from the hats to the dresses with the 1840 manner in the foreground.

Fifteen years ago Alfred Santell directed for Columbia and now he has come back with his first assignment for them in all those years to direct Ruth Chatterton in "A Feather in Her Hat". Miss Chatterton arrived from Spain recently.

There's a new game going on at Columbia, picking up options hither and yon, until its a head spinning job to keep tabs.

FIVE MOVIE QUESTIONS FOR YOUR PROGRAM

Questions

1. What comedians have been honored by the Kentucky Racing Asociation, which have named a horse race after them?
2. What famed opera singer, five feet tall, is going to make a picture for RKO Radio?
3. What star lives on the highest hill in Hollywood and has a police dog which is supposed to keep people out but which makes friends with everybody?
4. In what motion picture now being made are all the principal male actors more than six feet tall?
5. What is the name of the dance successor to the Carioca and the Continental?

Answers

1. Bert Wheeler and Robert Woolsey. The race to be run May 3 at Churchill Downs, is the called "The Wheeler-Woolsey-'Nitwits'-Handicap". 2. Lily Pons. 3. Ann Harding. 4. "Boom Days", starring Richard Dix with Preston Foster and Margot Grahame. 5. The Piccolino, to be seen in "Top Hat".

The picture industry is the best friend this southland has. In the "Last Days of Pompeii" more than 5,000 players were used, RKO. One battle of the General Grant picture will use 5,000 men, RKO. Many pictures are using from 500 to 1000 people for atmosphere.

Nelson Eddy Gets Lead "Rose Marie"—M-G-M Musical

Dear Old London

(Special to The Digest from our London correspondent, Dennison Thornton)

Polly Moran Makes London Hit

POLLY MORAN'S debut at the Palladium a wow . . . she clicked with equal success in Glasgow . . . incidentally vaudeville has never been more popular over here than it is now . . . C. B. Cochran, famed producer of musical shows, involved in legal battle over "Cavalcade" . . . road-show enterprises contend he killed provincial stagings of the Coward opus by selling movie rights too soon . . . Pathe Pictures are supplying newsreels to an English railroad company for projection to passengers on long distance journeys . . . billed as "Dillinger's girl friend", Marcia Marsh making personal appearances on Regal stage before each performance of Warner's "G-Men" . . . picture is a smash hit and records are toppling . . . records have already toppled at the New Gallery where "39 Steps" is stampeding the town . . . Harold Huth, featured player in "Rome Express", "Outsider" and "Aren't We All?", now casting director for Gaumont-British . . . Basil Dean producing and directing ATP's first color film . . . subject is James Elroy Flecker's oriental "Hassan" . . . music is by Delius . . . Sir John Reith, BBC chief, looking forward to the day when he can say just what's in his mind . . . Winston Churchill assisting John Monk Saunders on London Films' "The Conquest of the Air" . . . Saunders wrote "Wings" and "Dawn Patrol" and is husband of Fay Wray . . . Gene Gerrard, who said all those nice things to his mother-in-law in "My Wife's Family", has been chosen by George Arliss for a juicy supporting role in "The Guv'nor" . . . Arliss plays a tramp in this one . . . a welcome change after all that history . . . the whole town laughing over the things they've done to "Nell Gwynn" to make her fit for moral Americans . . . And now let's take a look over the new pictures in town.

AT M-G-M's Empire "The Flame Within", with Ann Harding and Herbert Marshall, Opinion is that the story is just so-so but is strong through M-G-M's brilliant showmanship in the matter of casting, direction and mounting. Special praise is given to Maureen O'Sullivan and Louis Hayward. Everybody predicting big things for the latter.

"Cardinal Richelieu"

Bang opposite the Empire is the Leicester Square luxury show-window run by Jack Buchanan for the Benefit of United Artists. At the time of writing Arliss' "Cardinal Richelieu" is the drawing-card here. "Arliss at his best", says the Daily Telegraph. "Suspense and Beauty", announces the Herald. "Vastly entertaining", I now quote the Morning Post. "A fascinating picture", adds the Star.

"Just a story of big business without the cigars", according to the Evening Standard.

Well, personally I found it swell entertainment and you can take it from me it will DO business!

"The Yellow Ticket"

SHIFTING west towards Piccadilly brings us past the London Pavilion where Sam Goldwyn's "Wedding Night" with Gary Cooper and Anna Sten is holding its own. Cooper is popular over here, and Anna Sten has a pretty following. Miss Sten, incidentally, is to appear in "The Yellow Ticket" for Gaumont-British according to the latest advices. She has already landed on English soil.

Race Track Favored in First Amendment of Amusement Tax

ANNOUNCEMENT has been made by the Ontario Government that an Order-in-Council has been passed amending the new Amusement Tax Act to provide for a reduction in the tax from 25c to not more than 5c for patrons of horse racing when the admission to the race race track does not exceed 25c. This change, which is the first to be made in the new tax regulations by Order-in-Council, provides for an 80 per cent. reduction for turf enthusiasts at certain tracks in Ontario which specialize in low-priced tickets. The amended regulation is already in effect.

"A distinct favor has been granted one promoter of horse racing in Ontario," declared W. M. Gladish, secretary of the Allied Sports and Amusement Association, Toronto, in commenting upon the first modification of the Amusements Tax Act which went into force on June 1 last.

"The Provincial Government appears to be more concerned with the success of horse-racing promotions than with the welfare of community, sport, church and school organizations and theatres for whom the new tax has proven an oppressive burden," continued the association secretary. "Premier Hepburn has not yet considered it essential that the people of small means and their children should be given a concession by a renewal of the tax exemption on admission tickets of 25c and under. The wiping out of this exemption was the chief change in the new Act and the Government's tripled revenue from the Amusements Tax is a clear indication of the serious financial blow which has befallen the poorer classes. The Government can afford to give them some relief."

Theatres Contribute Freely

Those who have had charge of the interests of the theatre-owners in connection with the official investigation into charges by the Canadian Performing Right Society are feeling quite jubilant. They believe that the case against any increase in the rates has been presented in a most convincing way. The Report of Judge Parker will not be ready until September, but hopes run high.

Another reason why these gentlemen are pleased is the promptness with which theatre-owners responded when asked for contributions towards the general expense, which include the fees of Mr. Arthur G. Slaght, K.C. The estimated cost to the theatre interests was put at $8,000 — an outside figure. Already $7,000 has been received by the Musical Protective Society which is acting as treasurer.

Nearly thirty small theatres sent their contributions direct, ranging in size from $5 to $30. Loews, Theatre Holding Corporation, B. & F., Famous Players and Kirkland Amusements have contributed directly. Other owners and circuits have contributed through the Exchanges, nearly $2,000 being collected in this way. France Film Co. of Montreal collected $105.

The industry is represented on the Musical Protective Society by Messrs. T. J. Bragg, Oscar Hanson and John A. Cooper.

Universal Reach 5 Year Production High This Week According to President Carl Laemmle

Show Business

Production Reaches Peak at M-G-M Studios

With twelve pictures in various stages of filming, production at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios has reached an all-time peak for this time of the year. The photoplays now before the cameras are "O'Shaughnessy's Boy", "Here Comes the Band", "Pursuit", and untitled Joan Crawford-Brian Aherne picture, "The Black Chamber", "A Tale of Two Cities", "Broadway Melody of 1936", "Mutiny on the Bounty", "A Night at the Opera", "Robin Hood of El Dorado", "Tarzan Returns" and "Mala".

Frank Buck's Capture of Rare Gaur in New Film

Acknowledged by zoologists and wild animal hunters to be one of the rarest and positively the most ferocious animal in the world, the gaur, or saladang, as it is known in Sumatra, has bowed before the advance of motion pictures and will be seen on movie screens for the first time this fall when the third Frank Buck wild animal special is released by RKO Radio Pictures.

"Dr. Socrates" Finished

"Dr. Socrates", Paul Muni's latest starring picture for Warner Bros., based on the novel by W. R. Burnett was completed last Wednesday says a wire from the Burbank (Calif.) studios. William Dieterle directed the film,

Jean Parker in England

Jean Parker, star of "Little Women" and "Sequoia", has arrived in England to play one of the leading roles in the new Alexander Korda production, "The Ghost Goes West".

With Robert Donat in the starring role, this story which first appeared in "Punch" will be brought to the screen under the direction of Rene Clair, French director best known for his production of "Sous Les Toits de Paris", "A Nous La Liberte" and "Le Million". The screen play is by Robert E. Sherwood.

Others in important roles in "The Ghost Goes West" are Eugene Pallette and Patricia Hilliard.

Edmund Gwenn, British stage and screen star, has signed a long-term Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer contract, and will play the title role in "The Bishop Misbehaves", soon to go into production at Culver City. The screen adaptation by Monckton Hoffe and Leon Gordon is based on the stage play by Frederick Jackson. Lawrence Weingarten is the producer and E. A. Dupont director.

Cicely Courtneidge Signed for M-G-M Film

Cicely Courtneidge has been borrowed from Gaumont-British by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and is now en route from England on the Majestic, and upon arrival in New York will proceed immediately to Culver City.

Her most recent picture for G-B is "Me and Marlborough", in which she is co-starred with Tom Walls.

"Transatlantic Tunnel", GB's drama of the future now in production at the Shepherd's Bush studios, will depict the tremendous struggle involved in the construction of a submarine tunnel between England and the United States.

Carl Laemmle, Jr., announces that his cast for "Hangover Murders", by Adam Hobhouse, is virtually complete. It is headed by Edward Arnold and Constance Cummings,

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Toronto Theatres

LOEW'S—Manager Jules Bernstein — "Escapade", with William Powell and Luise Rainer, a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production.

IMPERIAL—Manager Jack Arthur — Grace Moore in "Love Me Forever", Columbia picture.

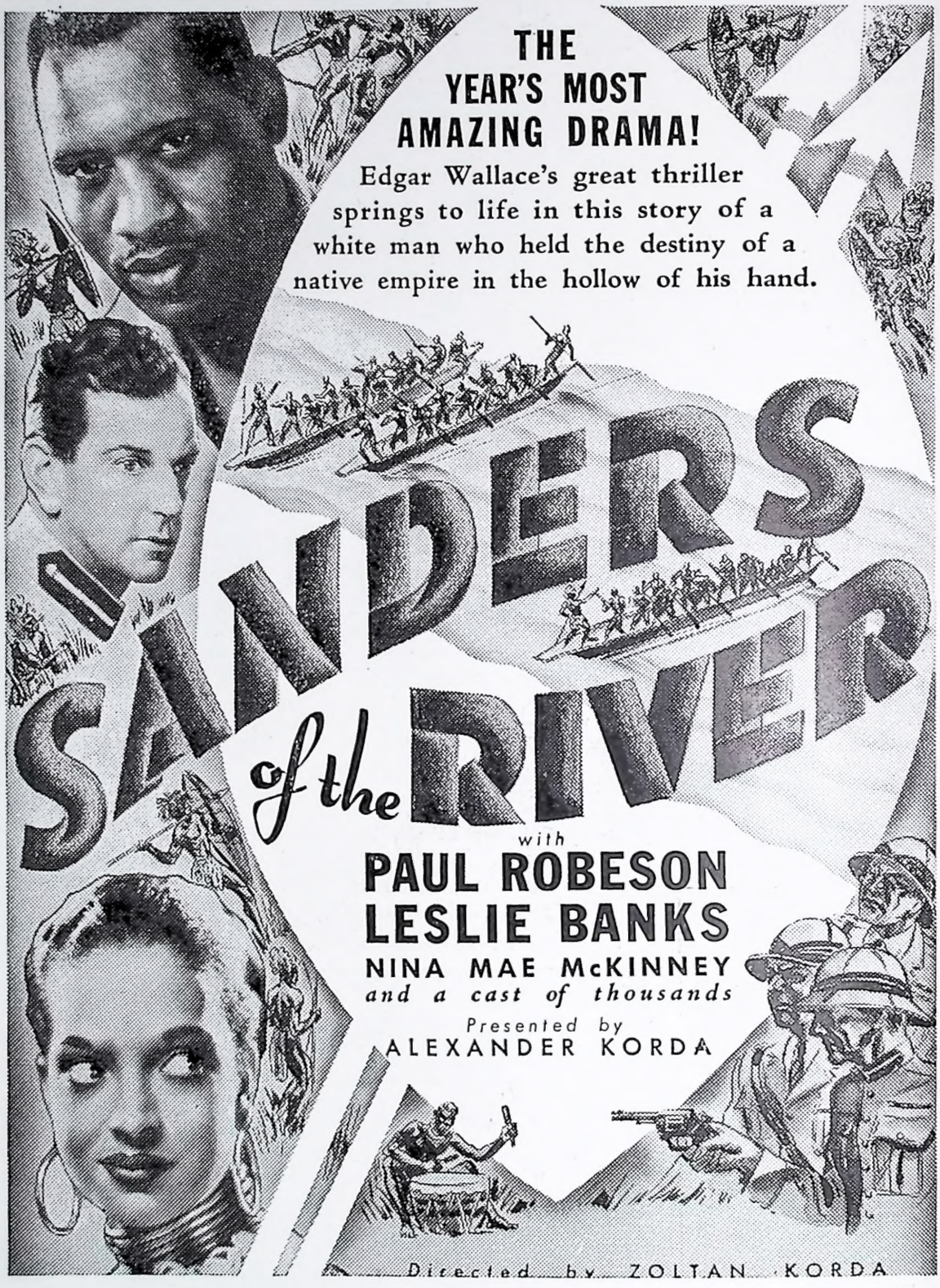
TIVOLI—Manager D. Krendal — "The Keeper of the Bees", Monogram production, and "Drake of England", with Matheson Lang, a B.I.P.-Empire Films release.

UPTOWN—Manager Tom Daley — Dick Powell in Warner Bros. production, "Broadway Gondolier".

SHEA'S—Manager Jerry Shea — "Shadow of Doubt", with Ricardo Cortez, Virginia Bruce and Constance Collier, produced by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

New Famous Players Theatre Being Erected Eglinton Avenue, Toronto

Broke All House Records at Capitol, Vancouver, in Spite of Hottest Weather!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Directed by ZOLTAN KORDA

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